



Loretto RC Primary June 2018 Newsletter



Dear boys, girls, parents and families,

We are racing towards the end of the summer term and the children are having a wonderful time, with varied learning opportunities. P1 set the 'Summer' scene with a fabulously entertaining assembly. They were so enthusiastic and clearly have enjoyed their learning. P7 have returned from a very successful cluster camp, with two of our Loretto pupils singled out for special praise by the camp leaders for their team spirit. P6 are leading a Polish language project and visited the Polish Consulate. P5R and P5F are finalising their John Muir Awards and looking forward to inviting their parents in to present their findings. Look out for the invite for P5 parents on Monday 25 June in the afternoon. P4 are just ready to make their First Holy Communion on Sunday 3rd June.

P3 have shown their fantastic enterprise skills by opening and running a School Stationery Shop and they are making a small profit. Along with P1 and P2 they will also be venturing into 'Loose in the Woods' for some fun outdoor learning.

A big thank you to our parents who, after training, have led P6 Bikeability sessions and assessed and awarded our pupils Level 1 Bikeability. This is a tremendous example of parent partnership in the life and learning of the school.

Staffing and Classes

Next year we will again have 8 classes. Please note classes and staffing can change although I hope not! The class configuration will be

P1 Mrs. Macdonald

P2 Mrs. Hill

P3 Mrs. Rice

P4 Mrs. Kinsella

P5 Ms Henderson

P6E Miss Easton (present P5R)

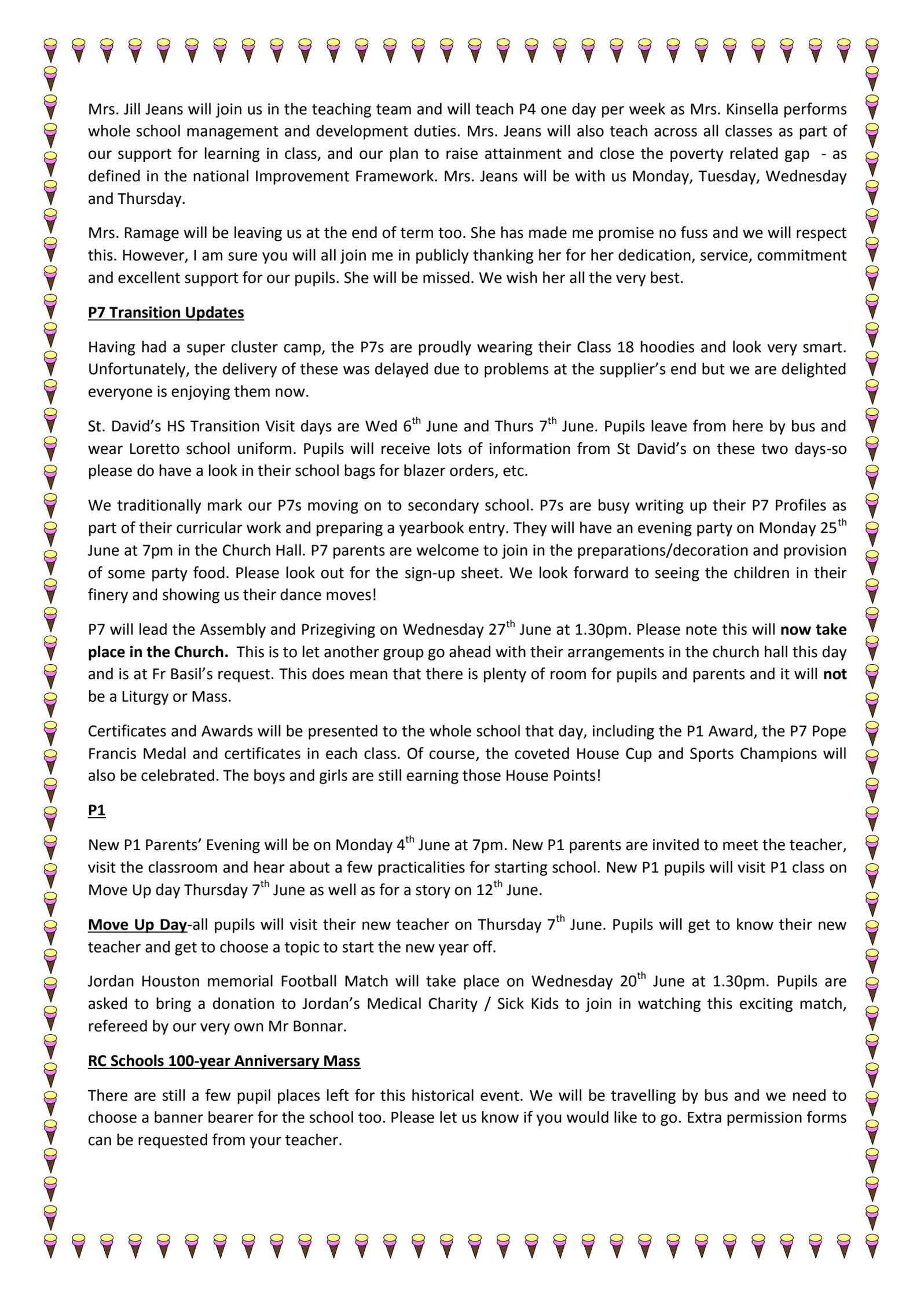
P6H Miss Hannah (present P5F)

P7 Mrs. Clark

Our thanks and very best wishes go to Miss MacPherson who has successfully completed her probationary teaching year with us. Miss Macpherson has contributed much to the wider life of the school running a Homework Club and Lego after school club as well as working so well as part of our teaching team. We wish her all the best and look forward to hearing of her continued success.

Nursery staffing across East Lothian is being restructured and we are currently recruiting for a Senior Early Years Practitioner who will be responsible for the day to day running of the nursery. Our nursery teachers are moving into the school to teach.

Mrs. Capaldi will be leaving us on a career break to undertake further study with our best wishes. Mrs. Todd will be beginning her maternity leave in the summer and, of course, we wish her well and look forward to hearing her happy news. Following successful selection and recruitment, Mrs. Kinsella will be Principal Teacher next session, working closely with me as part of the Leadership Team and also as P4 teacher.



Mrs. Jill Jeans will join us in the teaching team and will teach P4 one day per week as Mrs. Kinsella performs whole school management and development duties. Mrs. Jeans will also teach across all classes as part of our support for learning in class, and our plan to raise attainment and close the poverty related gap - as defined in the national Improvement Framework. Mrs. Jeans will be with us Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Mrs. Ramage will be leaving us at the end of term too. She has made me promise no fuss and we will respect this. However, I am sure you will all join me in publicly thanking her for her dedication, service, commitment and excellent support for our pupils. She will be missed. We wish her all the very best.

P7 Transition Updates

Having had a super cluster camp, the P7s are proudly wearing their Class 18 hoodies and look very smart. Unfortunately, the delivery of these was delayed due to problems at the supplier's end but we are delighted everyone is enjoying them now.

St. David's HS Transition Visit days are Wed 6th June and Thurs 7th June. Pupils leave from here by bus and wear Loretto school uniform. Pupils will receive lots of information from St David's on these two days-so please do have a look in their school bags for blazer orders, etc.

We traditionally mark our P7s moving on to secondary school. P7s are busy writing up their P7 Profiles as part of their curricular work and preparing a yearbook entry. They will have an evening party on Monday 25th June at 7pm in the Church Hall. P7 parents are welcome to join in the preparations/decoration and provision of some party food. Please look out for the sign-up sheet. We look forward to seeing the children in their finery and showing us their dance moves!

P7 will lead the Assembly and Prizegiving on Wednesday 27th June at 1.30pm. Please note this will **now take place in the Church**. This is to let another group go ahead with their arrangements in the church hall this day and is at Fr Basil's request. This does mean that there is plenty of room for pupils and parents and it will **not** be a Liturgy or Mass.

Certificates and Awards will be presented to the whole school that day, including the P1 Award, the P7 Pope Francis Medal and certificates in each class. Of course, the coveted House Cup and Sports Champions will also be celebrated. The boys and girls are still earning those House Points!

P1

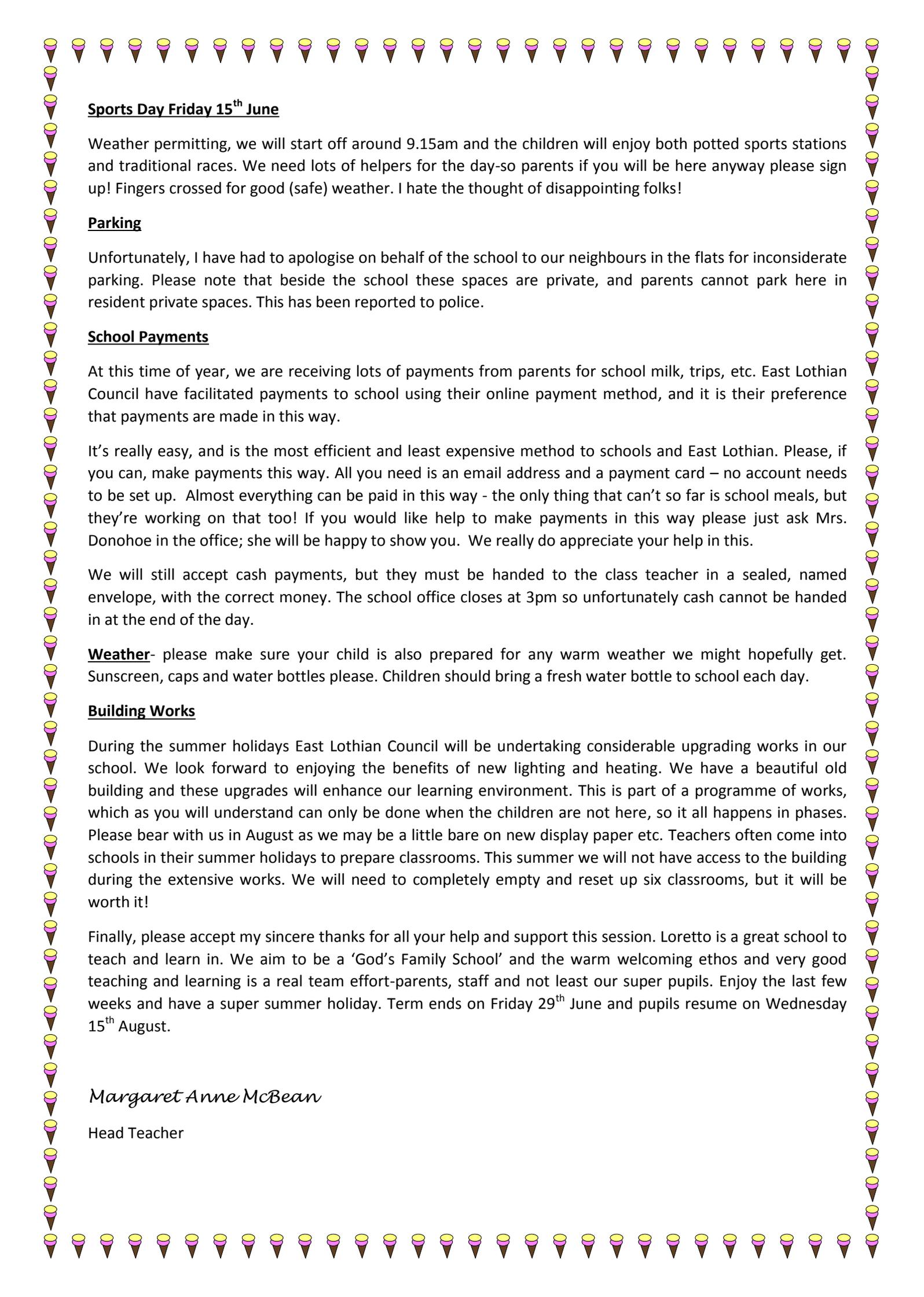
New P1 Parents' Evening will be on Monday 4th June at 7pm. New P1 parents are invited to meet the teacher, visit the classroom and hear about a few practicalities for starting school. New P1 pupils will visit P1 class on Move Up day Thursday 7th June as well as for a story on 12th June.

Move Up Day-all pupils will visit their new teacher on Thursday 7th June. Pupils will get to know their new teacher and get to choose a topic to start the new year off.

Jordan Houston memorial Football Match will take place on Wednesday 20th June at 1.30pm. Pupils are asked to bring a donation to Jordan's Medical Charity / Sick Kids to join in watching this exciting match, refereed by our very own Mr Bonnar.

RC Schools 100-year Anniversary Mass

There are still a few pupil places left for this historical event. We will be travelling by bus and we need to choose a banner bearer for the school too. Please let us know if you would like to go. Extra permission forms can be requested from your teacher.



Sports Day Friday 15th June

Weather permitting, we will start off around 9.15am and the children will enjoy both potted sports stations and traditional races. We need lots of helpers for the day-so parents if you will be here anyway please sign up! Fingers crossed for good (safe) weather. I hate the thought of disappointing folks!

Parking

Unfortunately, I have had to apologise on behalf of the school to our neighbours in the flats for inconsiderate parking. Please note that beside the school these spaces are private, and parents cannot park here in resident private spaces. This has been reported to police.

School Payments

At this time of year, we are receiving lots of payments from parents for school milk, trips, etc. East Lothian Council have facilitated payments to school using their online payment method, and it is their preference that payments are made in this way.

It's really easy, and is the most efficient and least expensive method to schools and East Lothian. Please, if you can, make payments this way. All you need is an email address and a payment card – no account needs to be set up. Almost everything can be paid in this way - the only thing that can't so far is school meals, but they're working on that too! If you would like help to make payments in this way please just ask Mrs. Donohoe in the office; she will be happy to show you. We really do appreciate your help in this.

We will still accept cash payments, but they must be handed to the class teacher in a sealed, named envelope, with the correct money. The school office closes at 3pm so unfortunately cash cannot be handed in at the end of the day.

Weather- please make sure your child is also prepared for any warm weather we might hopefully get. Sunscreen, caps and water bottles please. Children should bring a fresh water bottle to school each day.

Building Works

During the summer holidays East Lothian Council will be undertaking considerable upgrading works in our school. We look forward to enjoying the benefits of new lighting and heating. We have a beautiful old building and these upgrades will enhance our learning environment. This is part of a programme of works, which as you will understand can only be done when the children are not here, so it all happens in phases. Please bear with us in August as we may be a little bare on new display paper etc. Teachers often come into schools in their summer holidays to prepare classrooms. This summer we will not have access to the building during the extensive works. We will need to completely empty and reset up six classrooms, but it will be worth it!

Finally, please accept my sincere thanks for all your help and support this session. Loretto is a great school to teach and learn in. We aim to be a 'God's Family School' and the warm welcoming ethos and very good teaching and learning is a real team effort-parents, staff and not least our super pupils. Enjoy the last few weeks and have a super summer holiday. Term ends on Friday 29th June and pupils resume on Wednesday 15th August.

Margaret Anne McBean

Head Teacher